MGM PRESSBOOK





BERNIE CASEY makes his motion picture starring debut as Tyrone Tackett, a super-slick street hustler determined to avenge his brother's death in MGM's "Hit Man."

MAT NO. 2B

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER **Presents**



Starring BERNIE CASEY Co-Starring PAMELA GRIER Screenplay by GEORGE ARMITAGE

Based Upon the Novel "Jack's Return Home" by TED LEWIS Produced by

GENE CORMAN Directed by GEORGE ARMITAGE METROCOLOR

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Tyrone Tackett BERNIE CASEY
Gozelda PAMELA GRIER
Laural Garfoot LISA MOORE
Irvelle Way BHETTY WALDRON
Sherwood Epps SAM LAWS
Rochelle Tackett
Theotis Oliver DON DIAMOND
Nano Zito EDMUND CAMBRIDGE
Shag Merriweather BOB HARRIS
Julius Swift RUDY CHALLENGER
Nita Biggs TRACY ANN-KING
Leon CHRISTIPHER JOY
Baby Huey ROGER E. MOSLEY

CREDITS

OKEDITO	
Directed by	GEORGE ARMITAGE
Produced by	GENE CORMAN
Screenplay by	GEORGE ARMITAGE
Based Upon the Novel	
"Jack's Return Home" by	TED LEWIS
Music by	H. B. BARNUM
Director of Photography	ANDREW DAVIS
Film Editor	MORTON TUBOR
Production Manager	DON HEITZER
Assistant Director	. GEORGE VAN NOY
Art Director	LYNN GRIFFIN
Sound	. ALEX VANDERKAR
Wardrobe	JODIE TILLEN
Casting Coordinator	. EDWARD LONDON

A Penelope Productions, Inc. Picture In Metrocolor Rated "R"

GENE CORMAN. A TREND-SETTING PRODUCER

Gene Corman is a producer who starts trends. And once that trend has taken hold, he is not about to let go. His latest film, "Hit Man" to be released by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, is a case in point. It follows "Cool Breeze," also produced by Corman and released by MGM this past year. The cast of the new contemporary action drama is headed by Bernie Casey and co-stars Pam Grier, Lisa Moore and Bhetty Waldron. George Armitage, who wrote the screenplay, makes his directorial debut with "Hit Man."

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Actually, Corman's trend-setting with black-oriented films goes back over ten years. At that time he produced a motion picture called "The Intruder," which dealt with racial intolerance and injustice in the South. "It exposed the doctrine of hate and prejudice," Corman says, "but it turned out that the film was far ahead of its time." The then-explosive nature of the film kept "The Intruder" from receiving the exposure it rightfully deserved." With the excellent response to his "Cool Breeze" this year, Corman felt encouraged to produce another film in the now totally accepted field of black action dramas of today. "Hit Man" he feels

accepted field of black action dramas of today. "Hit Man" he feels comes into the marketplace at just exactly the right time for all audiences

"You don't make films for white audiences, and you don't make them for black audiences," Corman says. "You make them for the total audience. In 'Hit Man' I feel we have contemporary action drama which will appeal to all segments of today's motion picture audience. After all, drama is universal. It draws no color lines. If

you have a good story to tell, and in 'Hit Man' we have one of the best, it can be told well if you organize a group of talented actors.
'As in 'Cool Breeze,' we were most fortunate in assembling a really top group of actors for the starring roles. With Bernie Casey, the former pro-football great of the Los Angeles Rams, heading the cast, we have other fine performers like Bhetty Waldron and Lisa Moore in top roles, and we were happily able to bring back from 'Cool Breeze' both Pam Grier and Sam Laws." Gene Corman and his brother, Roger, the producer-director,

himself responsible for many outstanding feature pictures two years ago, formed a production company, New World Pictures, which has an average output of approximately ten pictures a year. The two operate together as well as on separate projects of their

Gene Corman comes to the ranks of today's busiest producers particularly well prepared for the task. A 1948 graduate of Stanford University, he served as an executive with Music Corporation of America, at that time one of the world's leading talent agencies. As Corman says, "Having been greatly involved in the production and packaging of so many motion pictures, while representing such stars as Joan Crawford, Fred MacMurray, Ray Milland and Harry Belafonte, the move to the other side of the desk and into the active role of a producer semed a natural evolution."

Corman intends to keep up the fast pace for himself. Following "Cool Breeze" and "Hit Man," he is now actively planning other contemporary action films to follow them.



Tyrone Tackett (BERNIE CASEY) ponders his next move in his crusade of vengeance, as he attempts to comfort his niece, Rochelle (CANDY ALL) in a key scene from MGM's "Hit Man."



BERNIE CASEY stars as Tyrone Tackett in MGM's "Hit Man," a fast-moving action drama of underworld vengeance.

MAT NO. 1C



BERNIE CASEY stars as Tyrone Tackett, a super-slick street hust-ler, who survives underworld savagery to avenge his brodeath in MGM's "Hit Man."

MAT NO 18



BERNIE CASEY makes his motion picture starring debut as Ty-rone Tackett, a super-slick street hustler determined to avenge his brother's death in MGM's "Hit

MAT NO. 1A

EXTRAORDINARY ARTISAN

In 1956 Bernie Casey won an athletic scholarship to Bowling Green State University, yet his family and friends were shocked and dismayed at his choice to major in Fine Arts.

"The only painters I know are either white or dead," or "you can't make a living doing that," was the standard response.

"I would simply say, I love to paint. Sink or swim, I was going to be an artist," said Casey, who currently stars in MGM's "Hit

Casey didn't sink, and today he is recognized as an extremely talented artist, who has also become an accomplished poet as well.

He has had several one-man shows at the prestigious Ankrum Gallery in Los Angeles. His oil paintings of abstract landscapes are sought by discriminating art collectors here and abroad. Some have commanded prices in the four figure bracket.

He has had two books of poetry published, "Look at the People" and "My Point of View," and is presently preparing a third.

Although his paintings have been described as abstract, Casey takes a slightly different approach to his work.

"I suppose you could say my paintings are primarily abstract, whatever that means. I can't say, because a painting is a visual thing and I don't think one can explain how a painter paints. It's simply art," said Casey.

At this point in his creative endeavors, Casev views his work as rather expressionistic, yet not necessarily reflective of a 'black experience.

"I think one's creative pursuits work on two levels, one the subconscious and the other conscious. I try to be aware of where

my creativity is in relationship to where my life is.
"I'm sure, personally, I function on a very unconscious level, and have been doing it so long that a certain subliminal awareness has become an integral part of my creativity.

"I can't say that my paintings are reflective of a 'black experience,' because my experiences are not always limited to blackness. They're simply human experiences.

'More importantly is the fact that I studied art formally, which means I was programmed from the beginning. Meaning, historically speaking, European art was the art form which I was educated "However, I was not aware of this factor until I began to under-

stand my blackness. During my college years I went to school and tried to digest all the data, as every other student did, and tried to achieve the set standards of excellence," said Casey.

As a poet Casey feels his writings are more reflective of a 'black experience.'
"I think it's because, as a poet I began writing with the ren-

aissance of a number of black writers. I started writing seriously in the 60's, which was a very strong time for writers like James Baldwin, Richard Wright and Langston Hughes.

"It was during this time that I really became aware of my blackness and how it related to life in this country. Which is to say, I was more attuned as a writer than as a painter.

"While I was in San Francisco I enrolled in a course in characterization at the University of California Extension School, and a whole new world of creativity was opened for me.

"Sometimes I think that acting is not a valid profession for a grown man. Of course, that's not true because anything is valid. Even doing nothing is valid, if that's your thing. My acting is a stepping stone toward learning the business and eventually I hope to become a well-rounded filmmaker," said Casey.

Casey, a man who knows who he is, where he has been and what he has to do to get where he wants to go, is destined to leave his mark on whatever he does.

Announcement Story

"Hit Man," Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's new action drama, opens an engagement at . Bernie Casey heads the starring cast.

The Gene Corman Production follows the adventures of a powerful underworld figure in his quest to avenge the death of his

Co-starred with Casey are Pamela Grier, Lisa Moore and Bhetty

"Hit Man" marks the directional debut of George Armitage, who also wrote the screenplay.

Gene Corman earlier produced "Cool Breeze," a top boxoffice success for MGM.

"Hit Man" was filmed on actual locations throughout the Los Angeles area.



Tyrone Tackett (BERNIE CASEY) ponders his next move in his crusade of vengeance, as he attempts to comfort his niece, Rochelle (CANDY ALL) in a key scene from MGM's "Hit Man."

MAT NO. 1D



SAM LAWS co-stars as Sherwood, a close friend of the family, who collaborates with Tyrone Tackett (BERNIE CASEY) in uncovering the mystery surrounding his brother's death in MGM's "Hit Man."

MAT NO. 1E



PAM GRIER stars as Gozelda, a sensuous young beauty, in her quest for fame and fortune would even sell her soul to the devil, in MGM's "Hit Man."

MAT NO. 1H

ENERGY SOURCE

"I have no real problems in my personal life," says entertainer Sam Laws, "and none in my professional activities." He attributes his private security and the success of his new-found Hollywood acting career to a philosophy generally labeled science of mind.

The 254 pound actor-singer, soon to be seen with Bernie Casey and Pam Grier in "Hit Man" for MGM release, insists, "I never let anything become problematic. Situations arise, but I never let my thinking carry them into problems. My attitude towards life developed shortly after I left Washington, D.C. to pursue a singing career in New York. I had 22 good, rewarding years in New York before I moved West and I attribute my good fortune to my philosophy.

"There is perfect law and perfect order in the universe," believes Laws, recently seen in MGM's "Cool Breeze." "If I hit a problem I can't solve, I let it go after a little work. You can become so frustrated you cease to function. You'd be surprised how things work out if you handle them properly.

"It applies to everything. When I go for an interview, I go with a positive attitude. If I don't get the part, I feel there must be something better for me. I strive to do my best and often it's not quite what they had in mind. You take it all as it comes. You get what you need, so long as you don't expect frivolity and stupid things.

"I just kind of dropped into acting because of this belief. It's made for a wonderful life, being able to act and continue my singing," says the Delaware-born, Washington, D.C. raised artist who has earned the title of Mr. Stylist on the nightclub circuit. "My first acting was in the New York production of 'Cabin In The Sky' in 1964. I never pursued it, because singing is my first love, but the jobs have come. And when I moved to Los Angeles I had singing and acting offers."

He recently appeared at Beverly Hills' Ye Little Club and the Los Angeles Mark Taper Forum productions of "Murderous Angels" and "The Blacks." His greatest public exposure has been in TV guest-starring roles and such movies as "The Pawnbroker," "The All American Boy," "The Grissom Gang," and "Up Tight." In addition to "Hit Man" he has another new film coming out titled "Walking Tall."

Until recently Laws was best known for his popular club act, during which he performs show-stopping imitations of such talents as Billie Holiday, Sarah Vaugh, Ella Fitzgerald, Carmen McRae and Pearl Bailey.

"I feel very good about the future because I know my source. Not just the source of energy, but the source of everything I need. I would say in each of us there is a God in the making. We just must take the time to develop it. Then we can accomplish anything good that we desire."

NO MEDICAL NEEDS

When lovely, brown-eyed Pamela Grier enrolled in Colorado's Metropolitan State College a couple of years ago, she had every intention of becoming a doctor.

She gave up that idea, however, possibly because she made pulses throb too rapidly, and instead became one of Hollywood's most popular new actresses, currently starring opposite Bernie Casey in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's release of the Penelope Production, "Hit Man."

Oddly enough, Pamela — who prefers to be called Pam — has yet to appear in a medical show, either on television or in movies. She grew up in the typical suitcase surroundings of an Army brat.

She was born in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, but a few weeks later her serviceman father was transferred to Denver, Colorado. By the time she was six the family had moved again — this time to Swindon, England, just outside London. The next move was to San Francisco, California, and then back to Denver, which finally became home for the Griers.

Pam, by the way, is a cousin of actor-singer Roosevelt (Rosey) Grier, once a member of the Los Angeles Rams professional football team's "Fearsome Foursome." A singer as well as an actress, Pam several times has lent her voice to background vocals for recording artists, such as Lou Rawls, Bobby Womack and cousin "Rosey."

In "Hit Man" Pam portrays Gozelda, a sensual young beauty whose claim to fame is her starring performances in pornographic movies.

"Hit Man," produced by Gene Corman and directed by George Armitage, has Casey, also a former Los Angeles Ram, in the role of a powerful underworld figure trying to avenge his brother's death.

The film is the eleventh for Pam, who made her debut in the much talked about "Beyond the Valley of the Dolls." Some other credits include "Blacula," "Twilight People," "Women in Cages" and one of 1972's big boxoffice successes, "Cool Breeze," also for MGM.

But it was her singing which first planted the idea of an entertainment career in Pam's mind, although at first the thought probably was subconscious.

"I started singing early in life, and while in high school was a member of a gospel choir that had its own weekly television show," she says.

she says.

While still in college, she entered the Miss Colorado contest in the Miss Universe competition and was first runnerup. An agent suggested she give Hollywood a fling.

That suggestion was about all Pam needed. She chucked her medical books into the trash can, packed her much-traveled suitcase and was off for Hollywood. After a year of drama study, cheap hamburgers and temporary office jobs, she got her first role — and from then on Pam Grier was on her way.

BREATHLESS PACE

"Hit Man," a Penelope Production for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, is a fast-paced story that zipped around Los Angeles during filming at almost the same breathless pace it takes on the motion picture screen.

Both producer Gene Corman and director-writer George Armitage are film believers in utilizing actual sets rather than studio sound stages. The result was that "Hit Man" was filmed on 37 different locations, and not one foot inside a studio.

"Hit Man," starring Bernie Casey, follows the hard-hitting exploits of a powerful underworld figure seeking to avenge the death of his brother. Pamela Grier, Lisa Moore and Bhetty Waldron costar

Casey, incidentally, was a former professional football star with the Los Angeles Rams. Miss Grier, brown-eyed, pretty and very un-footballish in appearance, is nonetheless a cousin of another former Los Angeles Ram, the all-time great Roosevelt (Rosey) Grier.

One filming site utilized by Corman and Armitage is the controversial Watts Towers in southeast Los Angeles. Built board by board by one man, Simon Rodio, over a 30-year span, the towers have been under debate for years as to whether they represent art or a junk-pile. Public sentiment has rallied to the cause of Rodio, however, contending that any man who devoted much of a lifetime to creating something he considered art has, in fact, created a work of art.

Another location was a 57-room mansion in the West Los Angeles area built in 1903 by a wealthy dairy products tycoon. A 28-room English Tudor house in the Los Feliz area which once served as the Russian Embassy also became a "Hit Man" set.

When Corman and Armitage needed a mortuary, they filmed inside one. Quietly, of course.

Other less intriguing locations include the Long Beach Athletic Club, Los Angeles International Airport and a remote section known as "Africa, U.S.A.," once the filming site for the MGM-TV series "Daktari."

Producer Corman, both on his own and in association with his brother, Roger, helped shape the growing trend for the production and marketing of reasonably budgeted films with broad audience appeal. These include pioneer work in popularizing films about teen-agers, gangsters of the 1930's or horror subjects.

ACTING.. TOP OF HER LIST

While lying in a hospital bed after undergoing major surgery, Lisa Moore, with her life's breath hanging by a thread, made a decision which turned her future completely around.

"I told myself that if I was blessed with another chance at life, I would do all the things I wanted to do, that I had only thought of doing before. Acting was at the top of my list," said Lisa Moore, who is now co-starred in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "Hit Man."

"Hit Man," starring Bernie Casey, is a fast-moving action drama produced by Gene Corman. George Armitage, making his motion picture directorial debut, also wrote the screenplay. Shot on locations in and around Los Angeles, the film also co-stars Pamela Grier and Bhetty Waldron.

Lisa plays the role of Laural, the proprietor of an off-beat motel, whose lustful attraction for the well-built stranger, Tyrone Tackett, played by Bernie Casey, moves her life into uncertain violence.

Lisa, whose father was a full-blooded Cherokee Indian, was born in Miami, Florida. After graduating from high school, she enrolled in Xavier University in New Orleans, where she majored in Education and Languages.

After three years at Xavier, she convinced her mother that she wanted to study drama, and subsequently transferred to Goodman Theatre of Arts in Chicago, where she received her formal dramatic training.

Following the completion of her training, she moved to New York, where she studied dancing at Carnegie International School of Dance with Frank Wagner, and voice with Phil Moore. She later married Moore.

However, the marriage resulted in career conflicts and her work consisted mostly of modeling until an offer came for her to make her motion picture debut in "For Love of Ivy" starring Sidney Poitier. She followed that with guest starring roles on CBS television's "The Guiding Light."

With her marriage becoming more and more uncertain because of her dream of an acting career, she was suddenly struck by a near-fatal illness.

Following her recovery, Lisa ended her $4\frac{1}{2}$ year marriage to Phil Moore and moved to Los Angeles following the divorce.

Well known to television audiences as the dancing girl from Rowan & Martin's "Laugh-In," her feature film credits include "The Fuzz," starring Dick Van Dyke, "Dream of Kings" starring Anthony Quinn, and the more recently released "Black Gun" starring Jim Brown.



PAM GRIER stars as Gozelda, a sensuous young beauty, in her quest for fame and fortune would even sell her soul to the devil, in MGM's "Hit Man."



BERNIE CASEY stars as Tyrone Tackett, a super-slick street hustler, turned cold-blooded killer, in a personal vendetta against syndicate warlords in MGM's "Hit Man."

MAT NO. 2A



LISA MOORE co-stars as Laural, proprietor of an off-beat motel, whose lustful attraction for Tyrone Tackett (BERNIE CASEY), propels her life into a world of uncertain violence in MGM's "Hit Man."

MAT NO. 1G

MAT NO. 1F



PAM GRIER stars as Gozelda, a sensuous young beauty, in her quest for fame and fortune would even sell her soul to the devil, in MGM's "Hit Man."

STILL NO. HM18



BERNIE CASEY stars as Tyrone Tackett, a super-slick street hustler, turned cold-blooded killer, in a personal vendetta against syndicate warlords in MGM's "Hit Man."

STILL NO. HM27



LISA MOORE co-stars as Laural, proprietor of an off-beat motel, whose lustful attraction for Tyrone Tackett (BERNIE CASEY), propels her life into a world of uncertain violence in MGM's "Hit Man."

STILL NO. HM32



BERNIE CASEY stars as Tyrone Tackett, a super-slick street hustler, who survives underworld savagery to avenge his brother's death in MGM's "Hit Man."

STILL NO. HM7



BERNIE CASEY stars as Tyrone Tackett in MGM's "Hit Man," a fast-moving action drama of underworld vengeance.

STILL NO. HM1



BERNIE CASEY makes his motion picture starring debut as Tyrone Tackett, a super-slick street hustler determined to avenge his brother's death in MGM's "Hit Man."

STILL NO. HM33



SAM LAWS co-stars as Sherwood, a close friend of the family, who collaborates with Tyrone Tackett (BERNIE CASEY) in uncovering the mystery surrounding his brother's death in MGM's "Hit Man."

STILL NO. HM31

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MGM presents "HIT MAN" Starring BERNIE CASEY · Co-starring PAMELA GRIER

Screenplay by GEORGE ARMITAGE · Based Upon the Novel "Jack's Return Home" by TED LEWIS

Produced by GENE CORMAN · Directed by GEORGE ARMITAGE



METROCOLOR





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METROCOLOR



THEATRE

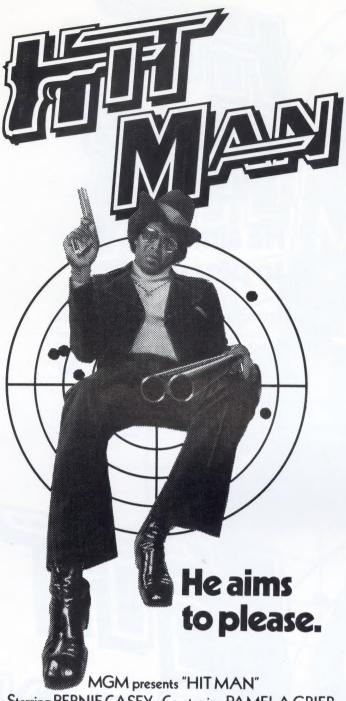


THEATRE

AD MAT NO. 301



THEATRE



Starring BERNIE CASEY · Co-starring PAMELA GRIER Screenplay by GEORGE ARMITAGE Based Upon the Novel "Jack's Return Home" by TED LEWIS Produced by GENE CORMAN Directed by GEORGE ARMITAGE · METROCOLOR





THEATRE

AD MAT NO. 205





METROCOLOR MGM



EATRE

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COMPOSITE AD AND PUBLICITY MAT

Special Mat No. 1 will include Scene Cuts No. 1A and 2A which are shown elsewhere in this book.







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AD MAT NO. 202



AD MAT NO. 203



THEATRE

AD MAT NO. 103

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